

a boy, his father sent him to Tuskegee Institute to study in the farm educational and vocational academy. He studied for four years; helping in the wheel shop during his spare time. He began his ministerial career on February 11, 1911.

His first pastorate was the Shiloh Baptist Church of Alabama City, Alabama. In 1917, Reverend Vaughn came to Rome as Pastor of the Lovejoy Baptist Church, where he served for over fifty years. During three summers he studied in Gadsden, Alabama working toward his degree and then entered Morehouse College. He returned to Rome in 1923 with his degree and once again took over the pastorate of the church. Reverend Vaughn also served as pastor of Flint Hill Baptist Church of Gaylesville, Alabama, where he served for 25 years. While in Rome, he also served Matthew Chapel Baptist Church for 4 years, Friendship Baptist Church of Adairsville, Georgia for 9 years, and the Hopewell Baptist Church of Dalton, Georgia for 14 years.

In 1948, Reverend Vaughn was elected as Vice President of the Rome Ministerial Alliance, composed of both black and white ministers. This was the first time an African American had been elected to an office. Reverend Vaughn's interests did not stop with problems of just his own congregation. He was constantly being called on to help solve outsiders' problems and to aid needy families, and he also posted bail to get people out of jail. During the Christmas Season, he was one of the leading figures in the Empty Stocking Fund, and also one of the prime forces in helping Rome Black Leaders procure a band for Old Main High School. He was looked upon as a leader in all civic drives and campaigns benefiting both races, and he freely gave of his time and monies to help build a better Rome.

TRIBUTE TO THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF BLACK PRIDES' ANNUAL MEETING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MEETING

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2012

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the International Federation of Black Prides' Annual Meeting and Technical Assistance Meeting, which will be held in Washington, D.C., from January 13–16, 2012.

The International Federation of Black Prides, Inc. (IFBP)—a 501(c)(3) with offices in Washington, D.C., Jacksonville, FL, and Los Angeles, CA—is a coalition that promotes a multinational network of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Black Prides and community-based organizations dedicated to: promoting grassroots organizing around issues affecting the Black LGBT community; promoting community health and wellness; providing technical assistance to its member Prides; promoting unity; and ensuring educational development, economic empowerment, and individual and collective self-determination.

The mission of the IFBP is to build awareness of and pride in the diversity of the black LGBT community. Each local Black Pride is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the mission of the IFBP. Each Black Pride hosts year-

round services and activities in addition to a multi-day festival that celebrates the rich cultural heritage of the black LGBT community through educational workshops, health seminars, artistic events, and activism on the local level. Since its formation in 1999, the IFBP has grown to include 32 domestic member-and-affiliate Prides and three international Prides. D.C. Black Pride, which will celebrate its 22nd anniversary in May 2012, was a charter member of the IFBP.

The IFBP is led by a national board comprised of eight members—four officers, three At-Large members and one Ex-Officio member. The board consists of: Dwayne Jenkins, Chair; Kimberly Jones, Vice-Chair; Anthony Hardaway, Secretary; Elizabeth Burch, Treasurer; Victoria Kirby, Member At-Large; Rev. Eric P. Lee, Member At-Large; Charles E. Nelson II, Member At-Large; and Earl Fowlkes, Jr., Ex-Officio Member.

I ask the House to join me in welcoming all who are attending the IFBP's Annual Meeting and Technical Assistance Meeting.

HONORING TEXAS CENTENARIAN CLESPIE WEST CARR

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Ms. Clespie West Carr of Houston, Texas, on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Ms. Carr celebrated her 100th birthday on January 4, 2012, and hers is a life rich in history and life experience.

Ms. Carr's childhood was not easy, and from an early age she had the strength of character that would carry her throughout her life. At age 2, Ms. Carr was orphaned and placed under the care of her grandmother. Just a few short years later, when she was not attending the Marquez School four months out of the year, she was hard at work in the fields picking cotton and vegetables.

Having lived for 100 years, Ms. Carr has seen so many of our Nation's historic events. When Ms. Carr was only 23, the Great Depression was in full swing. A young mother, she cared for her small children during the harsh economic realities of the time. Her resilience and strong work ethic helped carry her family through one of the toughest periods in American history.

She too has witnessed our country's decades-long struggle for civil rights. She lived through a time of segregation and violence motivated by hate, and decades later she would see the first African American elected to the highest office in the land.

If there was one thing in particular that enduring these hardships and struggles did for Ms. Carr, it was to forge unbreakable bonds with her children and family. Ms. Carr recalls the happiest time in her life as watching her children grow up and being able to attend school. Her constant and enduring desire to work hard so that her children could live a better life and her duty to family is as selfless as it is noble.

But Ms. Carr's selflessness extended far beyond her own family; the benefits of her service and generosity poured out into the commu-

nity. Ms. Carr served as Secretary for the Robinson Chapel Baptist Church for 40 years. There, she was one of several members of the Sick Committee who would aid the sick by cooking, cleaning and running errands for the needy.

Mr. Speaker, Clespie Carr is now part of the small number of centenarians in the U.S. but her determination and dedication to her family and friends only make her that much more unique. I am pleased to acknowledge this monumental occasion and Ms. Carr's tireless efforts for the sake of others this past century, and I wish her continued health and prosperity.

HONORING GREG HAMILTON

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary achievements of my constituent, Mr. Gregory V. Hamilton. Greg is dedicated and he is passionate, and he has devoted his entire life to serving our country, his community, and the causes he champions so well. Many Montgomery County residents know him by his signature braids and his colorful garb that reflect his love of country, his Native American heritage, and his pride as a Vietnam veteran.

Unfortunately, Greg's braids are gone now, a victim to the cancer that is ravaging his body because of his exposure to Agent Orange during his service in Vietnam in 1969 and 1970. Greg served in the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged in 1970. He received numerous medals and ribbons for his service, including the Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon and the Combat Action Ribbon for his service on the USS *Hickman County LST 825* in the Brown Water Navy in Vietnam.

Despite his lifelong fight against the effects of Agent Orange—or maybe because of it—he is passionate about improving the lives of veterans nationwide, and he has dedicated himself to doing so. A lifetime member of Vietnam Veterans of America and a committed member of Rolling Thunder Maryland Chapter 1, Greg has for many years been a part of the Wall Washing Crew, volunteers who wash and maintain the Vietnam Veterans Memorial from April to November each year. He also participates in the arrival of "Honor Flights," greeting and escorting World War II veterans to the Memorial in Washington, DC. Greg has been active in assisting those affected by military life ever since his own discharge 40 years ago. He supports military families by sharing with them his own experiences and offering advice. He was critical to the creation of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs and, most recently, he has been involved in the Mental Health Association of Montgomery County's initiative "Serving Together: Troops, Veterans, and Family Care Project." He has tirelessly provided support and care for military families throughout our community.

Greg is of African-American and Cherokee descent. He maintains a strong connection to his Native American heritage, having spent much of his life working with Native American organizations. In 2002, he was elected Council

President of the American Indian Heritage and Education Association, Inc., an organization that serves the Native American community by honoring Native American culture and providing outreach to veterans and their families. In 1995, he helped plan the first American Indian Heritage Day Powwow in Montgomery County. More recently, he has produced two public access cable shows—"American Indians: Past and Present" and "Our Veterans, Our Warriors."

Greg's professional career has also been devoted to public service. He has served on countless boards and committees around Montgomery County. For example, he was President of the Park Ritchie Tenants' Association, Inc., served on the Board of Directors of Suburban Maryland Fair Housing, Inc., served three terms as a Councilmember for the City of Takoma Park, and served as chair of the Takoma Park Cable TV Advisory Board, the Montgomery County Community Leadership Task Force on Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, and the Public, Health and Safety Committee and the Housing Committee of the City Council. Greg's level of community involvement is extraordinary—he has never hesitated to be involved, to take a stand and to make a difference.

Every resident of Montgomery County, Maryland and every veteran in America owes a debt of gratitude to Greg Hamilton for his dedicated, selfless, and passionate work. I am proud to speak today to honor this extraordinary man. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Greg's many accomplishments, his lifelong work on behalf of our Nation's veterans and his profound commitment to honoring their service.

**HONORING CAPTAIN JEFFREY
MACLAY**

HON. CORRINE BROWN
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, January 13, 2012

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as the representative of Florida's third congressional district, I would like to commend Captain Jeffrey Maclay for the outstanding service he provided for NAS-Jax during his tenure as Commanding Officer. The importance of Naval Air Station-Jacksonville, both for our area's residents, as well as our Nation's national defense, cannot be overstated, and Captain Maclay performed a remarkable job as a leader in this post.

Captain Maclay, a native of New Bedford, Mass., graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in May 1986 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in civil engineering, and during his six Seahawk deployments, accumulated more than 3,800 flight hours in the SH-3H Sea King and SH-60F/HH-60H.

His fleet assignments include tours with HS-2 and HS-14, Carrier Air Wing Two and USS *Kearsarge* (LDH-3). Captain Maclay also served as executive officer aboard HS-2 while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. After "fleeing up" as commanding officer, his squadron earned the Arnold J. Isbell Award for Undersea Warfare excellence and the Arleigh Burke Award for warfighting excellence. He can also boast of shore tours, which included the Joint Staff (J-7, Operational

Plans and Joint Force Development) as a strategic planner, the OPNAV staff (N51 Strategy and Policy) as an operations analyst, and HS-10 (Fleet Replacement Squadron) as a flight instructor.

A graduate of the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, Ala., he also attended Auburn University, and earned a Masters Degree with a distinction in political science. He also completed a one-year Federal Executive Fellowship at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, DC.

Under Captain Maclay's leadership, NAS-Jax was chosen the winner of the 2011 Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Commander in Chief's Installation Excellence Award. In the words of Captain Maclay, "this (was) an award that reflected the hard work by all who help NAS-Jax deliver the most effective and efficient readiness from the shore." And throughout 2011, NAS-Jax served as the premier installation for delivering effective, sustained and improved shore readiness to its 15 home based squadrons, sailors and civilian personnel, as well as supporting numerous joint commands, government agencies and carrier readiness sustainment exercises.

I wish Captain Maclay the best of success in his future endeavors, and, like all Jacksonville area residents, am honored to have had him serve as NAS-Jacksonville's Commanding Officer.

**HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF TUOLUMNE GENERAL HOSPITAL**

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 13, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge that the last patient cared for by Tuolumne General Hospital (TGH), also known as the Tuolumne General Medical Facility, was transferred out on November 23, 2011. With the transfer of that patient, a proud 162-year history of service to the residents of Tuolumne County was brought to an end.

The beginning of Tuolumne General Hospital dates back to about 1849. Plans for a public hospital began on November 7, 1849, when the citizens of Sonora saw a need to establish a hospital for the sick and the destitute of the county. The first facility in Tuolumne County consisted of a canvas tent erected on the hill near the present courthouse in 1849. In November of that year, a wooden structure with a canvas roof was constructed to serve as a hospital at a cost of \$542. Patients occupied berths along the walls and were nursed by a male steward who received \$4 per day for his services.

A hospital was established near the Roman Catholic Church in June, 1851. Two months later, another hospital was established on Washington Street. No permanent arrangements had been made by the City or County for the care of indigent patients, until a law was enacted that authorized the County Board of Supervisors to levy a special tax to raise funds for the care of indigent persons.

In 1854, with funds raised by the special tax, the County Board of Supervisors called for bids to provide hospital and medical serv-

ices for indigent patients. The contract was awarded to Drs. William T. Browne and Thomas Kendall on their low bid of \$25 per week, per patient. The bid price included furnishing the hospital facility, food, bedding, medicine, and their professional services.

In 1856, the Board of Supervisors again called for bids to provide hospital and medical services. At that time, the state began to make funds available to counties for indigent care with the specification that any physicians employed were required to have medical degrees. As a result, the call for bids specified that the contracting physician had to be a "graduate of a legally incorporated medical college." The new two-year contract was awarded to Dr. Francis Canton, a well-educated French physician, and his associate, Dr. George Manning, a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The contract price was only \$9 per week per patient, but it specified that the County would be responsible for the burial expense of unfortunate patients. In addition, the contracting doctors were allowed to take in private patients.

In 1861, the County Supervisors decided to purchase their own hospital. A building was secured on the northwest corner of Lyons and Shepherd Streets, now part of the China Town parking lot. After a decade of use, the building was no longer suitable. In 1873, the County purchased the old Lewis C. Gunn residence located on the west side of South Washington Street. The building was remodeled and enlarged substantially and made suitable for patients according to the standards of that period. The most noted physician-in-charge was Dr. William Eikelroth. Dr. Eikelroth installed a hand pump on the only well near the hospital at his own expense (about \$19) and then had to sue the County to get reimbursed. By the mid-1870's, water was made available to most parts of the hospital and facilities were installed where patients could take either hot or cold baths and wash their clothing and bedding.

In 1897, a new county hospital was constructed at the south end of Sonora where the present TGH is located. Necessitated by Tuolumne County's second gold rush during the mid-1890's, most of the hospital's early facilities were geared for male occupants only. Females were generally cared for in private homes, although a facility for their care was operated on the north side of South Washington Street during a period when the county hospital was located in the old Gunn Building.

Over the next 80 years the hospital continued to grow and in 1984, a major modernization project was completed which included the expansion of the Emergency Room, Radiology Department, Pharmacy, Intensive Care Unit, Recovery Room, and several support services. The next year, TGH started Health Promotion Programs and in 1987 the Adult Day Health Care Center opened, the Primary Care Clinics opened, and they began a Prenatal Program to serve the over 100 women per year that would not be seen by the OB/Gyn physicians. Additionally, the TGH Foundation was formed.

During the 1990's, several additional changes took place: the first Satellite Adult Day Health Care Center in California was opened; Dr. Eric Runte was recruited as the first full-time physician director of the Primary Care Clinic; the hospital became affiliated with Visiting Home Nurses & Hospice of the Sierra; and the facility opened a Rehab Center in